

To: Policy and Resources (Community Development) Sub Committee	Subject: Wishaw Foyer Development - Request for Financial Assistance
From: Chief Executive	
Date: 13 January 1999	Ref: CE012/004/037

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Sub Committee of the request for financial assistance to support the development of a foyer in Wishaw.

2.0 Background

2.1 Foyers provide transitional accommodation for young people, linked to support with vocational guidance and personal development. Young people in North Lanarkshire currently have access to foyer accommodation and services which are located in Cumbernauld and provide accommodation for 12 people. The Cumbernauld Foyer is run by Cumbernauld YMCA/YWCA and has been in existence since 1995.

3.0 Wishaw Foyer Development

3.1 Cumbernauld YMCA/YWCA are currently developing a Foyer within the Wishaw area. Through the Empty Homes Initiatives and the Housing Department accommodation has been identified at three locations:

- House accommodation, Main Street, Wishaw
- House accommodation, Dryburgh Road, Wishaw; and
- Office/house accommodation, Lomond Drive, Wishaw

3.2 It is intended that the Dryburgh Road and Main Street accommodation will be developed as housing provision for young people and the Lomond Drive premises will be developed to provide accommodation on the upper floor and training facilities and a family centre on the ground floor.

3.3 Initial discussions are also taking place with the Council's Leisure Services Department regarding the feasibility of developing the former senior citizens hut on Main Street as the initial contact point, Job Search and Job Training location.

4.0 Financial Support

4.1 Cumbernauld YMCA/YWCA is required to equip and furnish the training location and is requesting that the Council considers an application for financial support of £7,500. This would contribute to refurbishment costs, office equipment/furniture and new technology.

4.2 The development of the Foyer is viewed positively by Council departments and links closely to the strategic objectives of the Council's Social Strategy and accordingly £5,000 is suggested as an appropriate level of support.

4.3 The YMCA/YWCA has previously secured National Lottery and Lanarkshire Development Agency funding to support the staffing and revenue costs associated with the Foyer to the end of March 1999. The revenue costs thereafter will be funded through New Futures grant aid which has already been secured and a further application will be made to Lanarkshire Development Agency.

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that the Sub Committee:

- i) approve financial support to Cumbernauld YMCA/YWCA of £5,000 from the Chief Executive's Department for the purpose of development of Wishaw Foyer; and
- ii) otherwise note the report.


Chief Executive